

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: February 22, 2010
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

Budget and Finance

- *Revised Budget Review Calendar* – Please see communication item number 11 in your 2-22-10 Council packet for an updated budget review calendar. The calendar and other pertinent budget process information can be found on the Town's website at www.mansfieldct.org.
- *Town Council Budget Retreat* – We conducted the annual budget/finance retreat on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, and I thought we had an informative discussion. Staff has updated the town's website to include information related to the preparation of the FY 2010/11 Budget; this is a good resource for members of the public. Also, at the retreat the Council asked about the valuation of residential rental properties – pursuant to CGS §12-63b, rental properties containing six or less units, regardless of whether the property is owner-occupied, is valued according to a market sales approach similar to a single-family home.

Council Requests for Information/Council Business

- *Changes to IWA Regulations* – Council requested a copy of the draft IWA regulations with track changes, in order to view the specific proposed amendments to the regulations. Director of Planning Gregory Padick has informed us that the project of overhauling our IWA regulations has been underway for the past five years and that a Planning & Zoning sub-committee attempted to insert provisions from a DEP model and additional statutory changes into Mansfield's existing regulation format. The subcommittee was not successful, and, in the interim, DEP significantly updated its model regulations. Consequently, the PZC subcommittee made a decision about one year ago to start with the DEP model and modify it as appropriate to incorporate some existing Mansfield provisions and other local specifics such as building and development area envelopes and yield plans. The proposed draft is considered a comprehensive overhaul of the existing regulations and although there are some common elements with the existing regulations, it is not feasible to indicate, on a section by section basis, the specific revisions that are being proposed. Most municipalities in Connecticut have started using the DEP model as their regulatory framework.
- *MBOE Goals and Objectives* – Per Council's request, please item #10 in your packet for a list of the Mansfield Board of Education's Goals and Objectives.
- *Ordinance Providing a Property Tax Exemption for Farm Buildings* – As requested, attached please find a copy of the latest version of this proposed ordinance. I believe that Council members wanted to consider referring this proposal to the new Ad hoc Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee.
- *Potter Property* – Per Council's request, the price paid for the Potter Property was \$2,605.
- *School Building Committee Q & A Webpage* – Council requested a copy of the Q & A webpage for the School Building Committee. We had expected to be able to include the questions and answers as a communication in this meeting packet. However, more time is needed by the

Board of Education staff to complete this webpage. The Board of Education expects to have the webpage completed before the March 8, 2010 Council meeting.

- *Water and Sewer Inquiries* – Some councilors had questions about the 2/4/10 Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee meeting materials and the water permitting process, respectively. Please see the attachments to old business item number 2 in your Council packet for materials related to this request. Also, Council requested information on the impact of a consolidated elementary school on the sewer and water system at Southeast School and Route 89. A new school would have its own septic system independent of the existing septic system at Southeast School. There are no sewer lines in the area. Southeast School has a modern two well water system at this time. With a larger consolidated school, the state would likely want another well added to this system as well as another holding tank (10,000 gal) because of the necessity to install a sprinkler system.

Departmental/Division News

- *Mansfield Resident Trooper's Office*
 - The Mansfield Resident Troopers Office applied for and was awarded a grant from the Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse in the amount of \$2,481.00. This funding must be used in Mansfield to conduct alcohol compliance checks in conjunction with Connecticut State Liquor Control.
 - On January 19, 2010 Troop C personnel arrested a suspect charged with two recent robberies at the Four Corners CVS pharmacy. I would like to commend Troop C personnel as well as detectives from the Eastern District Major Crime Squad for their good work on this case.
 - On February 3, 2010, the Statewide Narcotic Task Force (STNF) East Field Office assisted by the Mansfield Resident Troopers Office and Troop C executed separate narcotic related search warrants for two residences within Tolland County – one in Willington and the other in Mansfield. These search warrants were the result of a joint investigation by SNTF-East and the Mansfield Resident Troopers Office and resulted in the arrest of five individuals for various narcotic related charges.
- *Town Manager's Office*
 - *Requests for Proclamations* – We have received the following requests for proclamations. If Council would like to accommodate these requests, please let me know.
 - Girls Scouts of Connecticut (communication item number 13 in your Council packet)
 - Peace Corps (communication item number 14 in your Council packet)
 - Silver Star Families of America (communication item number 15 in your Council packet)

Upcoming Meetings*

- Traffic Authority, February 23, 2010, 11:00 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- School Building Committee, February 24, 2010, 5:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee, February 26, 2010, 7:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Planning and Zoning Commission, March 1, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Parking Steering Committee, March 2, 2010, 5:00 PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office, 1244 Storrs Road
- Agriculture Committee, March 2, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, March 3, 2010, 5:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, March 4, 2010, 4:00 PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office, 1244 Storrs Road
- Community Quality of Life Committee, March 4, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, March 4, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, March 8, 2010, 5:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Communications Advisory Committee, March 8, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, March 8, 2010, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, March 8, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the Town Calendar at www.MansfieldCT.org or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*